

Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve Approved Meeting minutes 02-18-2018

Attendees:

CSO

Christina Evans - President
Shayna Jacques - Treasurer
Dave Kandz - Secretary
Rick Deluga - board member
Marie Figueroa - board member
Tim Kozusko - board member
Paul Gray - board member
Dave Holko - board member
Steve Smith - board member
Kelly Wiener - board member

CSO board members absent

None.

Park Personnel

Daniel Willis - KPPSP Manager

Guests:

Stan Czaplicki - visitor
Kim Kandz - visitor (arrived at 15:34)

Sign in sheet:

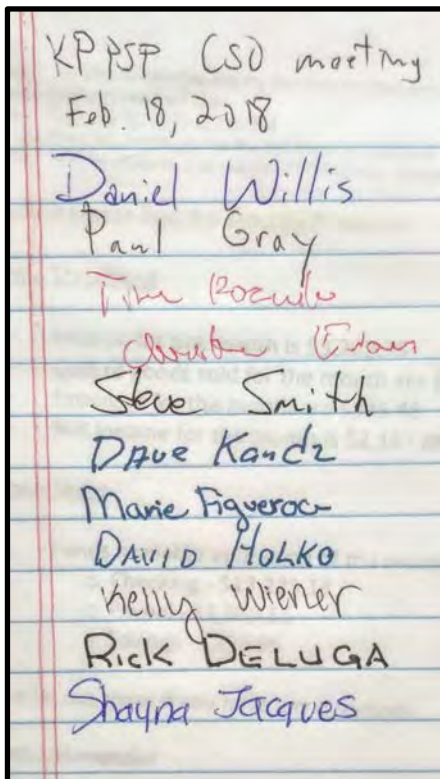
Pre-meeting discussion: Christina introduced guest David Simpson (<http://birdingwithdavidsimpson.blogspot.com/>). David spoke regarding a proposed fundraiser for the Friends - buggy birding tours of the Preserve. The tours would be for Friends members only, 7 members on each tour, from 8:30am-12:30pm and 2:00-6:00pm. Possible dates are April 15 or April 22 (the day after the Spring Wildflower Walk). Paul Gray and Shayna Jacques are possible buggy drivers, which would allow David to focus on narrating the tour. David departed after speaking as he needed to go lead a birding tour. After some discussion it was decided to charge \$100 per Friends member.

Call to order: At 13:51 Christina called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda: Paul Gray moved to approve the agenda. Dave Kandz seconded the motion, the agenda was approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes of the November 2017 meeting: Tim Kozusko moved to approve the minutes as amended, Paul Gray seconded the motion, minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Discussion held regarding which reports to include in final minutes. Samantha from Paperpushers provided a document which explained the terminology used in the reports. Procedure to add Shayna to the bank account as elected Treasurer was discussed. Shayna should get her signature filed with the bank (Mid-Florida Credit Union); then



existing signatories on the account should visit the bank and sign a document acknowledging the new Treasurer.

Wild Apricot cost increasing to \$90/month in December, at renewal date. Several new features including an internet storefront will be included at the new rate.

The Broadband contract auto-renewed even though we did not sign up for auto-renewal. Tim will look at the contract. A new T1 line is being run to the office.

Account Balances: Shayna announced we have \$14,615.54 available funds as of 2/8/18. Here is a portion of the January financials per Timothy Menendez (bookkeeper, My Paper Pusher, LLC):

Attached please find the **January financials**.

Income Statement

-
- Income for the month is \$3,269.36
- Cost of goods sold for the month are \$756.00
- Expenses for the month are \$345.48
- Net Income for the month is \$2,167.88

Balance Sheet

-
- Funds available at the end of the month are \$14,615.54
 - o Checking - \$13,275.13
 - o Paypal - \$1,089.56
 - o Savings - \$250.85

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Timothy Menendez
Bookkeeper
My Paper Pusher, LLC
www.mypaperpusher.com
tel. [813.279.2752](tel:813.279.2752)
6930 W. Linebaugh Ave
Tampa, FL 33625

See also the January financial reports which are attached.

4 pallets of Firewood will be ordered.

Membership Report: As of February 12, we have 89 active members & 69 members of all types:

We currently have 89 active members, 3 more than the previous report. The number counts each family membership as at least two members (some have more), and the corporate membership as one member.

Actual memberships of all types is 69.

The breakdown by type of membership is:

- 19 - 1 year individual
- 18 - 2 year individual
- 17 - 1 year family memberships (36 total members)
- 3 - 1 year Patron (\$100)
- 3 - Lifetime individual
- 1 - Lifetime family (2 members)
- 1 - Corporate (Halifax River Audubon)
- 7 - Honorary members

Our Facebook page is currently at 895 members.

—Submitted by Christina Evans

Our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KPPSP>) currently has 895 "likes".

Managers Report:

Prescribed burning is currently underway. Number of backlog zones which needed to be burned to comply with the designated fire return interval reduced from 4 down to 1. Dry conditions with a forecast drought will make it difficult to keep up with the planned burns. Zones 23, some pasture zones are next, zones 48 and 13 (seven mile slough). (map?) Wildflower walk benefit. Zone 23 is good sparrow habitat. Jen Brown filming and documenting the great wildlife response to burns North of Seven Mile slough.

Increased Americorps staff (Jamie Butler and Haley) are living in the bunkhouse and a trailer next to the bunkhouse. Haley relocated here from Chapel Hill NC. Once the Kubota is repaired will be at full strength for exotic plant control. Daniel noted it is very helpful to have internet access in the shop as the Americorps reporting would otherwise be difficult to complete.

Celene and Cory are the new Sparrow technicians. Training to be conducted with Three Lakes Wildlife management. This year the Preserve only has 2 sparrow techs vs 3 last year, so Jen Hughes (Environmental Scientist) will be assisting with sparrow surveys.

Jason David was enrolled in the prescribed burn manager class; he will be available once certified to boss some burns.

The campground is full and has been for weeks. Walk-in sites are sometimes available. Book campsites 11 months in advance. Unit management plan includes 10 new tent-only sites. Primitive sites will be placed on the spoil banks on back side of Kilpatrick Hammock near the old cow ponds. Equestrian camp bathhouse planning is 100% complete but not yet funded.

Note that more staff can be allocated to KPP but will need 3 years of documented growth. New DEP leadership is encouraging.

Twice / week astronomy programs are well attended. This is an opportunity to promote the Friends of KPP and that will be done in the future. The Bimini top purchased by the Friends is installed and will be mentioned on the buggy tours.

The Florida trail is really busy, people hiking through are camping in the primitive and family campgrounds.

Upcoming 2 weeks of dry conditions will be ideal to add the Florida Trail Association wells. There has not been any reported confusion over rerouting the trail to the Pine Island primitive campsite.

Next weekend is Okeechobee battle reenactment. Road improvements (\$50K repairs to damage caused by Hurricane Irma) are being installed in 2 weeks. Roof repair projects are also scheduled to be completed soon.

Still looking for a recycling vendor.

Kelly Wiener asked if the Florida Trail will be impacted from any schedule prescribed burns. Daniel answered that Zone 23 is adjacent to the trail, but at most the trail would only be closed for 1-2 hours. Signs will be posted notifying hikers.

Florida Grasshopper Sparrow (FGSP) update (Paul Gray) : Three Lakes Wildlife Management area is projected to only have 5-8 females remaining in the wild, down from 130 in 2008. Avon Park had only 1-3 pairs / year in each of the last several years. No confirmed FGSP's at Kissimmee Prairie. So there maybe as few as 10 females remaining in the wild. Captive breeding programs are in place at the Rare Species Conservatory Foundation (29 birds) and at White Oak Conservation Center (14 birds). Discussions are being held and will culminate in a March 8th FGSP working group meeting re: possibly capturing some or all of the remaining wild female FGSP. There is only a %30 percent survival rate / year of birds in the wild.

As KPP is a vast property and 2 sparrow technicians cannot be everywhere, Shayna and Jen discussed conducting a survey blitz to listen for FGSP.

USFWS gave Rare Species Conservancy 29 birds and now they are cutting funding to the breeding program. Friends can supply letters of support, but the captive breeding program needs \$100k. Avon Park birds may be resistant to disease and possibly some of these birds might be captured to increase the genetic diversity of the breeding program.

Prairie Days / Prairie Nights wrapup: The program went very well. At least 150-200 people went on buggy tours. Total attendance: 121 at gate plus campers already in campground. Many attendees were from Okeechobee and Sebring, and a significant number of local residents (Viking Estates) attended. Okeechobee Mayor Dowling Watford attended and discussed lighting issues with Dave Holko. He also attended the Management Plan meetings and held discussions with Avon Park personnel re: Dark Skies, pilots and buffer zones to prevent development and light encroachment. Avon Park does allow public visitation but it's difficult to arrange; due to needing to plan visits outside scheduled active operations, it's much easier to visit KPPSP.



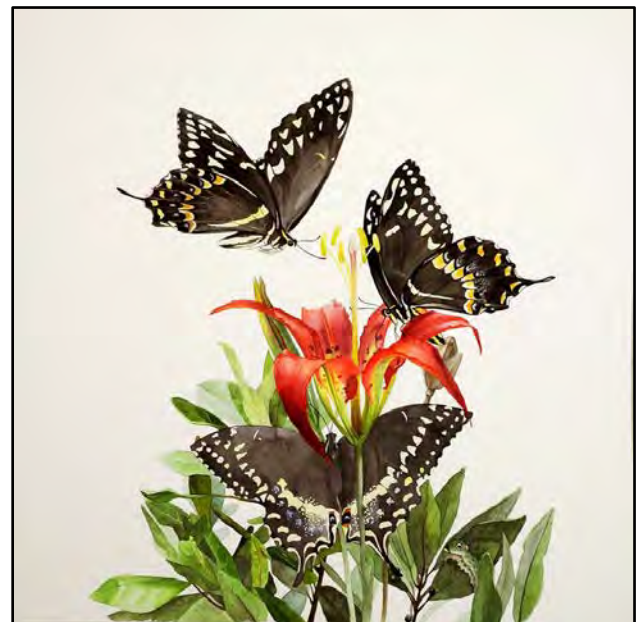
Paul Gray : people were confused over locations. Maybe include maps on the flyers Natalie printed? Tim to create simple “Disney” maps from GIS files. Better signage would also help. Steve and Scott from Naples who brought their BIG telescope enjoyed the attention. This year was a good baseline for attendance. Lots of other events were going on at same time. 30-40 people attended the Astronomy presentation and telescope viewing. The extra hour to attend (9pm vs 8pm) helped. Suggestions: Move food truck further away (due to generator noise), possibly get an additional food truck or an ice cream vendor?

December Astronomy program: Dave Holko to develop a proposal and plan, and contact different Astronomy clubs to coordinate with them. Dec 7th is the new moon, so schedule for Dec 1st.

Okeechobee battle reenactment is scheduled for next weekend, Christina cannot attend and there is no display ready. Shayna and Marie are going to attend, as are the Americorps workers (1 for each day).

Spring Wildflower walks (April 21st) are filling up, the morning walk is already full, afternoon walk still has available spots.

Memorial painting for Buck and Linda Cooper - Paul Gray gave some background: Buck and Linda Cooper created the KPPSP Butterfly List and were instrumental in putting KPPSP “on the map” as a Butterfly hotspot. Artist Kim Heise produced a painting which was inspired by a visit to Kissimmee Prairie when Linda Cooper was leading a wildflower walk. Linda subsequently expressed admiration for this painting. Price from Kim Heise is \$500 for the original work, \$50 for a print. Additional costs will be incurred for framing and attaching a commemorative plaque. Paul Gray suggested selling prints. Dave Holko moved to purchase the original painting and get it framed, Paul Gray seconded, motion carried unanimously. The painting is 18x20. The plaque, caption, and presentation were discussed.



LIFE program (**L**earning **I**n **F**lorida’s **E**nvironment): Friends should come up with bullet points in a “canned” application so we could apply for grants on short notice. Get a copy of successful grant application from Don Philpott.

Daniel looking at the United Way program for the next grant cycle, to get money for a pavilion near the preserve office. Would be used to put on LIFE presentations but the Park could use it for other needs too. May need Friends to aid in applying. This will be added to new business at the next Friends meeting.

New business:

Firewood procedures: It was decided to form a Firewood Committee comprised of Shayna Jacques {Treasurer}, Steve Smith, Dave Holko, Marie Figueroa and Paul Gray {committee chair}. Set a schedule and develop a process and procedures to be followed. Dave Holko requested the procedure be documented. Tim concurred especially regarding the need for audit compliance. Stan volunteered to develop the initial protocol, procedures and draft receipt. Paul to send a list of new moon dates via email; people can volunteer for dates they will be available.

(Kim Kandz joined the meeting @ 15.34)

Audience comments:

Stan: newsletter? Rick volunteered to put a newsletter together, but who will generate content? Isn't Facebook enough? (@15.54 Shayna departed).

Daniel Willis: Should we develop preprinted passes for members? What about a bumper sticker...”Where on Earth is Kissimmee Prairie”? Kissimmee Prairie magnets were also requested.

Paul Gray moved the meeting be adjourned, Dave Holko seconded motion, the meeting adjourned at 15.57.

Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve
Statement of Financial Position
As of January 31, 2018

	Total		% Change
	As of Jan 31, 2018	As of Jan 31, 2017 (PY)	
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
Checking/517069-CK1	13,275.13	10,135.15	30.98%
PayPal	1,089.56	1,095.27	-0.52%
Savings/517069-SA1	250.85	250.73	0.05%
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 14,615.54	\$ 11,481.15	27.30%
Other Current Assets			
Undeposited Funds	0.00	0.00	
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Total Current Assets	\$ 14,615.54	\$ 11,481.15	27.30%
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 14,615.54	\$ 11,481.15	27.30%
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
Sales Tax Liability	0.00	38.85	-100.00%
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ 38.85	-100.00%
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ 38.85	-100.00%
Total Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ 38.85	-100.00%
Equity			
Retained Earnings	12,447.66	17,475.90	-28.77%
Net Revenue	2,167.88	-6,033.60	135.93%
Total Equity	\$ 14,615.54	\$ 11,442.30	27.73%
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 14,615.54	\$ 11,481.15	27.30%

Thursday, Feb 08, 2018 09:47:33 AM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

Friends of Kissimmee Prairie Preserve
Statement of Activity
January 2018

	Total		
	Jan 2018	Jan 2017 (PY)	% Change
Revenue			
Direct Public Support			
Cash Box Individual Contributio	140.00	174.30	-19.68%
Individual Contributions	120.00	250.00	-52.00%
Total Direct Public Support	\$ 260.00	\$ 424.30	-38.72%
Investments - Interest	0.01	0.01	0.00%
Program-Related Revenue			
Education/Preserve Event Revenu	503.00	707.50	-28.90%
Grasshopper Sparrow Fund	40.00		
Membership Dues	20.00	105.00	-80.95%
Total Program-Related Revenue	\$ 563.00	\$ 812.50	-30.71%
Sales	2,446.35	491.15	398.09%
Total Revenue	\$ 3,269.36	\$ 1,727.96	89.20%
Cost of Goods Sold			
Firewood for Resale	756.00	2,052.00	-63.16%
Program Expenses			
Grants/Support to Preserve		5,191.77	-100.00%
Total Program Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,191.77	-100.00%
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 756.00	\$ 7,243.77	-89.56%
Gross Profit	\$ 2,513.36	-\$ 5,515.81	145.57%
Expenditures			
Contract Service Expense			
Accounting & Professional Fees	210.00	420.00	-50.00%
Total Contract Service Expense	\$ 210.00	\$ 420.00	-50.00%
Facility & Equipment Expenses			
Utilities	65.00	65.00	0.00%
Total Facility & Equipment Expenses	\$ 65.00	\$ 65.00	0.00%
Merchant Processing Fees	20.48	32.79	-37.54%
Penalties & Settlements	50.00		
Total Expenditures	\$ 345.48	\$ 517.79	-33.28%
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 2,167.88	-\$ 6,033.60	135.93%
Net Revenue	\$ 2,167.88	-\$ 6,033.60	135.93%